

**Department of Energy**  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

13-SSD-0100

**AUG 19 2013**

Ms. T. Bier  
Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility  
1604 Northeast 50<sup>th</sup> Street  
Seattle, Washington 98105

Dear Ms. Bier:

**NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S (DOE) FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA), FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI), AND MITIGATION ACTION PLAN (MAP) FOR THE EXPANSION OF BORROW AREAS ON THE HANFORD SITE, DOE/EA-1934**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has completed a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Assessment (EA) for Expansion of Borrow Areas on the Hanford Site (DOE/EA-1934) that analyzed the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action to expand 11 existing sand and gravel borrow sites and develop one new sand and gravel borrow site on the Hanford Site in Richland, Washington.

Based on the information presented in the Final EA (DOE/EA-1934) and the commitments in the MAP to mitigate impacts to less-than-significant levels, DOE has determined that the proposed action to expand eleven active borrow areas on the Hanford Site will not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the context of NEPA. Therefore, the preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required, and the DOE is issuing this FONSI. During the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 review, which was coordinated with the NEPA review and the EA comment period, concerns were raised regarding the proposed new borrow site (Pit 36). Because of these concerns and to allow for their resolution through continued consultation, DOE has decided to defer a determination on the proposed Pit 36 at this time.

Correspondence received during the draft EA comment period and general responses are included as Appendix C of the Final EA.

The FONSI, MAP, and the Final EA (DOE/EA-1934) are available at the DOE Public Reading Room, Consolidated Information Center at Washington State University – Tri-Cities, and at <http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/EnvironmentalAssessments>

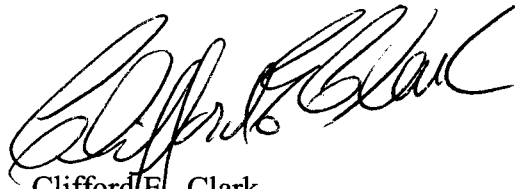
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If you or your staff has any questions, please contact me, or you may contact H. Boyd Hathaway, Director, Site Stewardship Division, at (509) 376-7340, or for technical questions, you may contact Paula K. Call, Site Stewardship Division, at (509) 376-2048.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clifford E. Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Clifford" being more prominent.

Clifford E. Clark  
Hanford NEPA Compliance Officer

SSD:PKC

cc:  
Administrative Record  
Environmental Portal